

State Water Board Update

1) Phase 1: San Joaquin River Flow and South Delta Water Quality Objectives

The State Water Board is in the process of reviewing the San Joaquin River flow objectives for the protection of fish and wildlife beneficial uses, water quality objectives for the protection of southern delta agricultural beneficial uses, and the program of implementation for those objectives contained in the 2006 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (2006 Bay-Delta Plan).

In order to inform the Bay-Delta Plan review, the State Water Board is preparing a Substitute Environmental Document (SED) and is anticipating issuing a draft by about mid-July, 2012. Following a period for receipt of written comments, there will be a public hearing on the adequacy of the draft. A final SED will be released after consideration of the comments and a Board hearing to consider adoption of the final SED and the revised Bay-Delta Plan is anticipated in February of 2013.

Additional information regarding this review can be found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/bay_delta_plan/water_quality_control_planning/

Questions concerning this effort can be directed to Mark Gowdy at 916-341-5432 or mgowdy@waterboards.ca.gov.

2) Phase 2: Comprehensive Review

On June 22, 2012 the State Water Board released a Notice of Public Workshops and Request for Information regarding Comprehensive Review of the Bay-Delta Plan. The notice can be found at

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/docs/pubnot_phs2wrkshps.pdf.

Persons interested in participating in the workshop panels should send an email to Bay-Delta@waterboards.ca.gov as soon as possible and no later than noon on July 6, 2012.

The workshops are scheduled for September 5; September 18 & 19; and October 2 & 3. The workshops will be organized to facilitate expert scientific input on the following topics: Ecosystem Changes and the Low Salinity Zone, Bay-Delta Fishery Resources, and Analytical Tools for Evaluating the Water Supply, Hydrodynamic, and Hydropower Effects. The information generated through the workshops will augment information generated through earlier reviews and will inform the State Water Board members and staff on what, if any, changes should be made to the 2006 Bay-Delta Plan.

Additional information is available at the Division of Water Rights' website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/

Questions concerning this effort can be directed to Rich Satkowski at 916-341-5439 or rsatkowski@waterboards.ca.gov or Karen Niiya at 916-341-5365 or kyniia@waterboards.ca.gov.

3) Bay-Delta Compliance

The Delta Watermaster at the State Water Board is continuing to monitor DWR/USBR compliance with D-1641 and State Water Board Order WR 2010-0002.

4) Water Transfers

On May 25, 2012 the State Water Board issued a notice for the temporary transfer/exchange of 52,320 acre-feet of water by the temporary addition of the Central Valley Project (CVP) place of use downstream of the Jones Pumping Plant to DWR Permit 16482 and the temporary addition of the State Water Project (SWP) place of use downstream of the Harvey O. Banks Pumping Plant to various USBR permits. The changes are intended to facilitate transfers/exchanges involving a total of up to 52,320 acre-feet of water involving the following water districts: 1) Santa Clara Valley Water District; 2) Oak Flat Water District/Del Puerto Water District; and 3) Kern County Water Agency/Kern Tulare Water District.

For further information on Water Transfers, contact Katherine Mrowka at 916-341-5363 or kmrowka@waterboards.ca.gov.